

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 7-10 and 12-16 are pending in this application. Claims 5, 6 and 11 have been canceled. Claims 13-16 have been added.

The allowance of claim 12 is acknowledged with appreciation. The indication that claims 5-6 and 11 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form is acknowledged with appreciation. Claim 13 is claim 5 rewritten in independent form. Claim 14 is claim 6 rewritten in independent form. Claim 15 is claim 11 rewritten in independent form. Thus, claims 12-15 should be allowed.

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Davidson (US 4,782,240) in view of Tsai (US 6,347,958). It is respectfully submitted that to establish obviousness of a claimed invention, the prior art reference must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. In addition, there must be some suggestion or motivation to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings (MPEP §706.02(j)).

The patent to Tsai discloses a conductive body 10 made of a metallic material that includes clamp 11 and a carrier 12 (see column 2, lines 21 to 30). The patent to Tsai does not disclose an injection molded housing which surrounds the carrier 12 including at least on a bottom surface and side surface of the carrier.

The patent to Davidson discloses a housing 12 and a metallic base plate 24. Two walls 23 of the base plate 24 surround the housing 12 at one end on a bottom surface and on a side surface. (see Davidson, Fig. 3) This is exactly the opposite of what is claimed in claim 1. That is, the housing surrounds the base plate in claim 1, not vice versa.

Furthermore, it is not obvious to form the housing 12 of Davidson from plastic. Even if the housing of Davidson was made of plastic, the housing 12 still does not partially surround the base plate 24, 23 at least on a bottom and side surface of the base plate.

The housing according to the present invention is lightweight with an integrated attachment section and which advantageously guarantees a secure connection of the injection-molded housing body to the attachment section without the need for separate fasteners such as screws, bolts or the like. The housing body according to claim 1 is injection molded on the base plate and partially surrounds the base plate including on a side and bottom surface of the base plate. Both Tsai and Davidson disclose the use of separate fasteners to connect the base plate to the housing. Tsai discloses the use of screws to attach circuit board 23 to the base plate 12 (Tsai Fig. 2). In addition, Davidson discloses that threaded member 16, washer 20, and nut 18 are used to fix the circuit breaker 12 to the plate 24. (Davidson col. 3 lines 27-31).

Since the combination of Tsai and Davidson lack disclosure of all the claim elements in claim 1, claim 1 should be allowed.

Claims 2-4 and 7-10 depend from claim 1 and define over the combination of Tsai and Davidson for the same reasons as claim 1 and for the specific limitations recited therein.

The combination of Tsai and Davidson does not disclose or suggest that the base plate is stamped from sheet metal and including all the limitations of claim 1. Thus, claim 2 should be allowed.

The combination of Tsai and Davidson does not disclose or suggest that at least one contact plate is stamped from the sheet metal with at least one contact tag projecting out of the housing body after encapsulation and including all the limitations of claim 1. Thus, claim 3 should be allowed.

The combination of Tsai and Davidson does not disclose or suggest that the contact tag is surrounded by a protective sleeve integrally molded with the housing body and including all the limitations of claim 1. Thus, claim 4 should be allowed.

The combination of Tsai and Davidson does not disclose or suggest that the housing body comprises integrally molded internal support structures for a printed circuit board and including all the limitations of claim 1. Thus, claim 7 should be allowed.

The combination of Tsai and Davidson does not disclose or suggest that the housing body has an open side opposite the base plate and a removable cover, the cover fitting on the

open side of the housing body and being connected to the housing body by an interaction of lock-in openings and corresponding support projections and including all the limitations of claim 1. Thus, claim 8 should be allowed.

The combination of Tsai and Davidson does not disclose or suggest that the attachment section of the base plate has at least one embossed reinforcement bead and including all the limitations of claim 1. Thus, claim 9 should be allowed.

The combination of Tsai and Davidson does not disclose or suggest that the attachment section has at least one attachment hole for the passage of a stud which is attached to a cell terminal of a lead accumulator and including all the limitations of claim 1. Thus, claim 10 should be allowed.


Claim 16 defines over the patents to Tsai and Davidson. Neither Tsai nor Davidson, either alone or in combination, disclose or suggest an electronic monitoring device on a vehicle part such as a lead accumulator including a metallic load-bearing base plate an injection molded, generally parallelepipedal housing body made of an electrically non-conductive material formed on and partially surrounding the base plate including on a side and bottom surface and a printed circuit board in the housing, wherein the base plate includes a portion for electrical communication with the circuit board, and wherein the base plate includes a cantilever attachment section projecting out of the housing body on at least one side for attachment to the vehicle part. Thus, claim 16 should be allowed.

Serial No. 09/998,105

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, and allowance of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees for this amendment to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,


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